

3      ~~48.~~ The device of claim ~~48~~ wherein the affinity reagent is bound to a filter element  
4                    within the tip.

1      ~~50.~~ The device of claim ~~48~~ wherein the tip is a micropipette.

1      ~~51.~~ The device of claim ~~49~~ wherein the tip is a micropipette.

1      ~~52.~~ The device of claim ~~49~~ wherein the filter element is securely fixed to the tip.

1      ~~53.~~ The device of claim 5 wherein the filter element is securely fixed to the tip.

1      ~~54.~~ The device of claim ~~49~~ wherein the filter element is removably fixed within the  
2                    tip.

1      ~~55.~~ The device of claim ~~51~~ wherein the filter element is removably fixed within the  
2                    tip.

1      ~~56.~~ A method for the separation of a component of a specimen comprising the steps  
2                    of:

3                a. providing a tip having an affinity reagent present, and  
4                b. flowing a volume of the specimen through the tip, thereby binding the  
5                    component to the affinity reagent.

1      ~~57.~~ The method according to claim ~~56~~ further including the step of washing the  
2                    retained affinity reagent with bound component by flowing rinses through the tip.

- 1      11  
2      58. The method according to claim 57 further including the step of flowing an  
3      effective dissociation solution through the tip and over the retained affinity  
4      reagent with bound component, thereby eluting the bound compound from the  
affinity reagent.

5      12  
6      59. The method according to claim 58 wherein the dissociation solution is a MALDI  
matrix.

1      13  
2      60. The method according to claim 58 further including the step of depositing the  
eluted component directly onto a mass spectrometer probe tip.

3      14  
4      61. The method according to claim 60 further including the step of depositing a  
MALDI matrix to the mass spectrometer probe tip

1      15  
2      62. The method according to claim 59 further including the step of depositing the  
eluted component directly onto a mass spectrometer probe tip.

1      16  
2      63. The method according to claim 60 further including the step of inserting the mass  
spectrometer probe tip into a mass spectrometer, thereby enabling laser  
desorption/ionization of the component.

1      17  
2      64. The method according to claim 61 further including the step of inserting the mass  
spectrometer probe tip into a mass spectrometer, thereby enabling laser  
desorption/ionization of the component.

1 18. 15. The method according to claim 62 further including the step of inserting the mass  
2 spectrometer probe tip into a mass spectrometer, thereby enabling laser  
3 desorption/ionization of the component.

1 19. 16. The method according to claim 63 further including the step of performing mass  
2 spectrometric analysis on the eluted component.

1 20. 17. The method according to claim 64 further including the step of performing mass  
2 spectrometric analysis on the eluted component.

1 21. 18. The method according to claim 65 further including the step of performing mass  
2 spectrometric analysis on the eluted component.

1 22. A method for the separation of a component of a specimen comprising the steps  
2 of:  
3 a. providing a tip,  
4 b. binding the component to an affinity reagent,  
5 c. forcing a volume of the affinity reagent with bound component through  
6 the tip, thereby retaining the affinity reagent with bound component within  
7 the tip,  
8 d. washing the retained affinity reagent with bound component by forcing  
9 rinses through the tip,